

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated July 18, 2008, which was made final, subsequent to the filing of a Notice of Appeal, and prior to the submission of an Appeal Brief, claims 4-9 have been canceled. Claims 1-3 remain in the application. Entry of these amendments, and reconsideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

With regard to the canceled claims, Applicant is not conceding that the subject matter encompassed by claims 4-9 is not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner. Claims 4-9 were canceled in this Amendment solely to facilitate expeditious prosecution of claims 1-3. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue claims, including the subject matter encompassed by claims 4-9, as well as additional claims, in one or more continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

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